

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the pending application is respectfully requested on the basis of the following particulars:

Rejection of claims 11-13 and 15-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph

Claims 11-13 and 15-20 presently stand rejected as being indefinite. In particular, the examiner notes that in claims 11 and 15, the recitation "the rod located in a position closer to the reference member (R) than the transmission member (29)" is ambiguous since rod (31) appears to be located inside reference member (R) and transmission member (29) appears to be touching the end of rod (31) in Figure 2.

Claims 11 and 15 have been amended to recite "the rod being located in a position closer to a base end of the reference member (R) than is the transmission member (29)," to clarify the location of the rod relative to the base end and the transmission member.

Applicant notes that the intended meaning is that the rod is closer to the base end of the reference member than the transmission member is (that is, the transmission member is further away from the base end of the reference member than is the rod).

It is respectfully submitted that the present amendment has eliminated the ambiguity cited by the examiner in claims 11 and 15, and therefore withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

There being no further rejections applied against any of claims 11-13 and 15-20, Applicant submits that the claims are now allowable.

Conclusion

In view of the amendments to the claims, and in further view of the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, it is requested that claims 11-13 and 15-20 be allowed and the application be passed to issue.


Application No.: 10/523,404  
Examiner: R. C. Watson  
Art Unit: 3723

If any issues remain that may be resolved by a telephone or facsimile communication with the Applicant's attorney, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the numbers shown.

BACON & THOMAS, PLLC  
625 Slaters Lane, Fourth Floor  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314-1176  
Phone: (703) 683-0500

Date: January 12, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

  
JOHN R. SCHAEFER  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 47,921